

REMARKS

The Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 21, 2005. Claims 109 to 121 are in the application, of which Claims 109, 115 and 121 are independent. Claims 15, 9 to 25, 29 to 33, 37 to 45, 47, 49 to 55, 60, 88, 91, 95 and 104 to 108 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter. Claims 109 to 121 are being added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, with respect to a formal matter, Applicants have not yet received initialed copies of the form PTO-1449 submitted with Information Disclosure Statements dated October 2, 2003, October 10, 2003, October 20, 2003, October 24, 2003, November 5, 2003, November 18, 2003 and December 23, 2004. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner return initialed copies of the form PTO-1449 to indicate that the art cited in these Information Disclosure Statements have been considered and made formally of record.

The Office Action lodges an objection to Claims 2, 4, 5, 9 to 13, 15, 17, 18, 22, 23, 25, 32, 33, 37 to 41, 43, 45, 47, 52, 53 and 55, as set forth at page 2. In addition, Claims 1 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as allegedly being indefinite, and Claims 1 to 5, 9 to 25, 91, 104 and 105 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter.

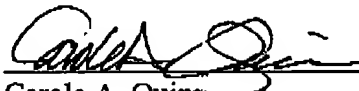
Without conceding the correctness of the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action, Claims 1 to 108 are being cancelled, thereby obviating the objection and rejections stated in the Office Action.

New Claims 109 to 121, which comply fully with 35 U.S.C. §§ 101 and 112, second paragraph, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

No other matters being raised by the Office Action, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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